

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MOUNT TEMPLE**
County : **WESTMEATH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 05-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	26	23
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	208	202

Mount Temple, County Westmeath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Mount Temple is welcome to the first Tidy Towns Competition of the third millennium. Thank you for your application and summary of your three to five year plan. Your long term objective of developing the village to its full potential and to develop the historical sites as tourist attractions is admirable. Your appreciation of the surrounding countryside, with bogs and lines of low hills which are formed by eskers, is inspiring. The entrepreneurial drive of the community group is refreshing. Congratulations on the sensitive manner in which you are approaching the refurbishment of the old cemetery which dates back to the fifth century. Your approach is thoroughly professional.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The school is beautifully presented and is rivaled only by the presentation of the church. Landscaping here is successful. Egans is beautifully presented also. The Community Hall looks well. The curtilage area / carpark might benefit from some landscaping.

LANDSCAPING

It is not necessary to plant flowers at the base of trees and indeed some experts feel that these actually take from the growth of trees themselves. There is scope at the road junction near the nameplate and the school for amenity development. This of course will have to be tailored to fit the proposed road widening plans. The development of the proposed picnic site was at quite an advanced stage during adjudication, we look forward to its completion. The many enclosed and landscaped green areas are a credit to those responsible.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Golf Club is a wonderful amenity, all the more for it being a championship course, well done on its presentation. The redevelopment of the ancient graveyard will be another valuable amenity upon its completion. There are no details of a wildlife project for this year's competition. Bear in mind that the purpose of this heading is to promote an appreciation of the value of wildlife to the built and social environment and, as such, a simple survey identifying wildlife, perhaps undertaken in conjunction with school children as part of a school project, would be appropriate under this heading.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is very good, well done! Do let us have some information on your litter control activities / strategies. We would be delighted to know of them. Note the large Sycamore trees should be kept free of all growth at their base to give a more clearly defined line.

TIDINESS

Well done again this year on a tidy appearance. There are no major problems under this heading.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Residential properties on the Athlone entrance are well presented and there are some very fine gardens. Encourage residents to maintain boundary walls freshly cleaned or painted. There are many differing styles of residential properties in the village ranging from bungalows to two storey townhouses. Most are presented to a very high standard.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

In setting back the field boundary opposite the school, try to maintain the gentle curve of the road as this is an attractive feature. It is appreciated, of course, that safety will have to be taken into consideration. The view of the church framed by a tree across from the nameplate on the Athlone entrance is charming. However the stand of Eircom poles, (many of which are at an angle), take from an otherwise charming picture. The sign for 'Mount Temple Golf Club' should be refurbished.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Stone walls, rose beds, stands of mature trees and a beautifully presented church create a very favourable first and lasting impression of Mount Temple. Well managed hedgerows are also an admirable feature.